**Lesson 2: Fitness & Natural Selection**

**Credit: Melissa Farrish**

**Overview:**

I will open this lesson with a *Daily Question.* The question is “What is fitness? What does it mean to be a fit individual?” The body of the lesson will contain an image of a big and strong animal and a smaller, weak looking animal. The students will discuss which one they think is more likely to survive in the population. A video and power point on fitness and natural selection will be shown. Students will take guided notes on these concepts and will be given a natural selection worksheet as an exit slip/homework.

**Objectives:**

Students will be able to:

* Hypothesize about what they think fitness means
* Discuss their thoughts on fitness
* Predict what will happen in the video
* Utilize a “Main idea and Details” graphic organizer for information on how fitness and natural selection play a role in evolution

**Opening:**

The lesson will open with the *Daily Question* of “What is fitness? What does it mean to be a ‘fit’ individual?” Student will discuss their answers and explain why they think what they think.

**Body:**

A picture will be put up on the board of 2 animals. Once is a lynx and the other is a hare. The students will be asked which one they think is more fit and why and will write the answer in their lab notebooks. They will be told that they are going to watch a video about the lynx and the hare in their natural environment and will be asked to predict what they think will happen during the lynx and hare interaction. After the video they will discuss if their predictions were true and analyze why they were right or wrong. Next students will be asked to make a “Main idea and Details” graphic organizer in their notebook to prepare for a power point on fitness and natural selection and the important role that they play in evolution.

**Closing:**

Students will be asked to write 3 points about something new they learned today in class. They will be given a natural selection worksheet for homework to complete. If they took good notes they should be able to complete the homework without a problem.